

REMARKS

In the Amendment and Response to Office Action filed on September 18, 2006, Applicants amended claims 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21, and canceled claims 22 and 23 of pending claims 1-23. Applicants also added new claims 24 and 25. The Examiner issued a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment on November 11, 2007, citing the above-identified claim amendment document as non-compliant. The Examiner considers this claim amendment document non-compliant because claims 1, 16 and 21 were amended to direct these claims to a non-elected invention. The Examiner states that the originally presented claims 1, 16 and 21 were directed to authentication between two computers, and were constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. With the amendment filed on September 18, 2006, the Examiner contends that claims 1, 16 and 21 were amended to claims directed to a non-elected invention of authentication between two computers with the assistance of a third computer. The Examiner submits this filed amendment is non-responsive because the Examiner considers claims 1, 16 and 21 drawn to this non-elected invention.

Applicants hereby submit amendments that direct claims 1, 16 and 21 to authentication between two computers as the Examiner contends was originally elected. No new matter has been introduced. Upon entry of the current amendment, claims 1-21 and 24-25 will be pending in this application, of which claims 1, 16 and 21 are independent. Applicants submit that pending claims 1-21 and 24-25 are in condition for allowance.

In view of the enclosed claim amendments, Applicants submit that the amended claims are compliant with 37 C.F.R. 1.121 or 1.4. Thus, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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